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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 HA-05
/137 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:FJTATU:MVS
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO/UNP:PSBRIDGES (DRAFT)
NEA/PAB:HLUCIUS (SUBS.)
EA/J:RNKILPATRICK (SUBS.)
----------113684 280425Z /13
R 271846Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189826

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, BG, JA, US

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH CANDIDACY FOR SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT

REF: TOKYO 13279 (NOTAL)

1. BANGLADESH PERM REP TO UN KHWAHA MOHAMMAD KAISER VISITED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HELMAN (IO) JULY 25 TO SOLICIT US SUPPORT FOR BG'S BID FOR SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT WHICH WILL BE VACATED BY INDIA NEXT TERM.

2. HELMAN GAVE STANDARD RESPONSE THAT WHILE WE VIEW BG'S CANDIDACY SERIOUSLY AND SYMPATHETICALLY, IT HAS LONG BEEN US PRACTICE AND POLICY TO REFRAIN FROM RE-
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VEALING PREFERENCES FOR SUCH POSITIONS UNTIL REGIONAL GROUP ENDORSEMENTS ARE ANNOUNCED.

3. ALTHOUGH KAISER SAID HE WAS MERELY "PERFORMING A DUTY," HE ELOQUENTLY PLED BG'S CASE. HE ASSERTED BG HAS SUPPORT OF ALL 38 ASIAN GROUP MEMBERS BUT SINGAPORE, WHICH WILL SUPPORT JAPAN, AND THAILAND AND

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MALAYSIA WHICH REMAIN UNCOMMITTED. KAISER STRONGLY SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT BECAUSE OF SHARED RELUCTANCE TO OFFEND JAPAN, ASIAN GROUP MEMBERS WILL REFRAIN FROM MAKING ENDORSEMENT, AND THAT THIS WILL RESULT IN DUAL

CANDIDACIES OF BG AND JAPAN AND HENCE REQUIRE SECRET BALLOT.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE USUN'S ASSESSMENT OF KAISER'S CLAIMS OF BG SUPPORT IN ASIAN GROUP, WHICH SEEM INFLATED ALTHOUGH PARA 2 B REFTEL SUGGESTS JAPANESE APPRECIATION THAT BENGLADESHIS MAY STAND A CHANCE TO PREVAIL OVER THEM. CHRISTOPHER

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